

**PATENT**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
N. Heaton et al

Serial No.: 10/029,698

Filed: December 18, 2001

For: Evaluation Molecular Size Distributions of  
Hydrocarbons from NMR data



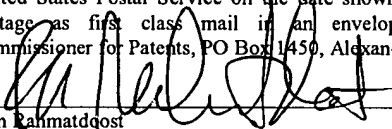
Group Art Unit: 2859

Examiner: D. Vargas

Atty. Dkt. No.: 20.2786

**RCE and AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any document referenced as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450.	
 Pam Rahmatdost	3/12/04 Date

Dear Madam:

In response to the Office Action dated December 5, 2003, and the telephone interview on March 10, 2004, at 10:00 am EST, please enter the following amendments.

**Introductory Comments**

The independent claims 1, 9, 18 and 26, along with dependent claims 2-7, 10-15, 17, 19-23, 25, 27-29 and 31, were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Coates. Dependent claims 8, 16, 24 and 30 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious based on Coates in view of Tuntunji. Claims 1, 9, 18 and 26 have been amended to clarify the claimed subject matter. These claim amendments have been discussed with the Examiner. Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks.